

that it has a linear backbone formed from ester-bond connected units (ii), (iii) and (v).

10. The composition of claim 1 wherein said ester consists essentially of said units (i), (ii), (iii), and (vi), the level of said units (vi) being at least 0.02 moles per mole of said ester, said ester further being characterized in that it has a linear backbone formed from ester-bond connected units (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v).

11. The composition of claim 7 which comprises from about 25 to about 100% by weight of ester having the empirical formula  $(CAP)_x(EG/PG)_y(T)_z$ ; wherein (CAP) represents the sodium salt form of said sulfobenzoyl end-capping units (i); (EG/PG) represents said oxyethyleneoxy and oxy-1,2-propyleneoxy units (ii); (T) represents said terephthaloyl units (iii); x is from about 1 to 2; y is from about 2.25 to about 9; z is from about 1.25 to about 8; wherein x, y and z represent the average number of moles of the corresponding units per mole of said ester.

12. The composition of claim 11, further characterized in that the oxyethyleneoxy:oxy-1,2-propyleneoxy mole ratio ranges from about 1:1 to about 7:1; x is about 2, y is from about 2.25 to about 8, and z is from about 1.25 to about 7.

13. The composition of claim 11 which is comprised of at least 50% by weight of said ester having molecular weight ranging from about 600 to about 2,000.

14. A water-soluble or dispersible composition according to claim 13, derived by a process which comprises at least one step of reacting dimethyl terephthalate, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propylene glycol and a compound selected from the group consisting of monovalent cation salts of sulfobenzoic acid and its C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl carboxylate esters, in the presence of at least one conventional transesterification catalyst.

15. The composition of claim 7 wherein said units (ii) consist essentially of oxy-1,2-propyleneoxy units, and which comprises from about 25 to about 100% by weight of ester having the empirical formula  $(CAP)_x(PG)_y(T)_z$ ; wherein (CAP) represents the sodium salt form of said sulfobenzoyl end-capping units (i); (PG) represents said oxy-1,2-propyleneoxy units (ii); (T) represents said terephthaloyl units (iii); x is from about 1 to 2; y is from about 2.25 to about 9; z is from about 1.25 to about 8; wherein x, y and z represent the average number of moles of the corresponding units per mole of said ester.

16. The composition of claim 15 wherein x is about 2, y is from about 2.25 to about 9, and z is from about 1.25 to about 7.

17. The composition of claim 19 which is comprised of at least about 50% by weight of said ester having molecular weight ranging from about 500 to about 2,000.

18. A water-soluble or dispersible composition according to claim 17, derived by a process which comprises at least one step of reacting dimethyl terephthalate, 1,2-propylene glycol and a compound selected from the group consisting of monovalent cation salts of sulfobenzoic acid and its C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl carboxylate esters in the presence of at least one conventional transesterification catalyst.

19. The composition of claim 8 which comprises from about 25 to about 100% by weight of ester having the empirical formula  $(CAP)_x(EG/PG)_y(T)_z(SIP)_q$  wherein (CAP) represents the sodium salt form of said sulfobenzoyl end-capping units (i); (EG/PG) represents said

oxyethyleneoxy and oxy-1,2-propyleneoxy units (ii); (T) represents said terephthaloyl units (iii); (SIP) represents the sodium salt form of said 5-sulfoisophthaloyl units (iv); x is from about 1 to 2; y is from about 2.25 to about 39; z is from about 1 to about 34; q is from about 0.05 to about 18; wherein x, y, z and q represent the average number of moles of the corresponding units per mole of said ester.

20. The composition of claim 19, further characterized in that the oxyethyleneoxy:oxy-1,2-propyleneoxy mole ratio ranges from about 0:1 to about 7:1; x is from about 1 to 2, y is from about 3 to about 39, z is from about 1 to about 34, and q is from about 1 to about 18.

21. The composition of claim 20 wherein x is about 2, y is about 14, z is about 11 and q is about 2.

22. The composition of claim 21 which is comprised of at least about 50% by weight of said ester having molecular weight ranging from about 800 to about 20,000.

23. A water-soluble or dispersible composition according to claim 22 which is derived by reacting dimethyl terephthalate, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propylene glycol, a dimethyl-5-sulfoisophthalate monovalent cation salt and a compound selected from the group consisting of monovalent cation salts of sulfobenzoic acid and its C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl carboxylate esters, in the presence of at least one conventional transesterification catalyst.

24. The composition of claim 9 which comprises from about 25 to about 100% by weight of ester having the empirical formula  $(CAP)_x(EG/PG)_y(T)_z(E_n)_r$  wherein (CAP) represents the sodium salt form of sulfobenzoyl end-capping units (i); (EG/PG) represents said oxyethyleneoxy and oxy-1,2-propyleneoxy units (ii); (T) represents said terephthaloyl units (iii); (E<sub>n</sub>) represents said poly(oxyethylene)oxy units (v), which are further characterized in having an average degree of ethoxylation which ranges from 2 to about 100; x is from about 1 to 2; y is from about 2.25 to about 39; z is from about 1.25 to about 34; r is from about 0.05 to about 10; wherein x, y, z and r represent the average number of moles of the corresponding units per mole of said ester.

25. The composition of claim 24, further characterized in that the oxyethyleneoxy:oxy-1,2-propyleneoxy mole ratio of said units (ii) ranges from about 0:1 to about 7:1; x is about 2, y is from about 2.25 to about 17, z is from about 1.75 to about 18 and r is from about 0.5 to about 2.

26. The composition of claim 25 wherein x is about 2, y is from about 4 to about 8, z is from about 4 to about 8, r is about 1 and n is from about 30 to about 85.

27. The composition of claim 26 which is comprised of at least about 50% by weight of said ester wherein n is from about 60 to about 85 and having molecular weight ranging from about 2,000 to about 12,000.

28. A water-soluble or dispersible composition according to claim 27 which is derived by a process which comprises at least one step of reacting dimethyl terephthalate, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propylene glycol, a polyoxyethylene glycol having an average degree of ethoxylation of about 77 and a compound selected from the group consisting of monovalent cation salts of sulfobenzoic acid and its C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl carboxylate esters, in the presence of at least one conventional transesterification catalyst.

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